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TITLE : MANUFACTURE OF TANTALUM POWDER

ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To manufacture tantalum powder having a low oxygen content and superior characteristics as a material for a capacitor by reducing potassium fluorotantalate with sodium in the presence of an alkali halide as a diluent after adding a magnesium component.

CONSTITUTION: When potassium fluorotantalate is reduced with sodium in the presence of an alkali halide such as NaCl as a diluent, a magnesium component is added in the form of $MgCl_2$, $MgSO_4$ or the like. Mg forms MgO by bonding to O_2 to be bonded to Ta, and the MgO is removed by dissolution in sulfuric acid or hydrochloric acid as a pickling agent in a pickling stage after the reduction. Vacuum treatment and crushing are then carried out to obtain tantalum powder having a low oxygen content and superior characteristics as a material for a capacitor.

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